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The President, obviously prompted by disappointment in the Belgrade conference, has now taken a tougher stand against non-alignment. After signing the foreign aid authorization bill, he remarked:

"It is my belief that in the administration of these funds we should give great attention and consideration to those nations who have our view of the world crisis." It seemed as if John Foster Dulles' doctrine that "neutralism" was "immoral"—previously repudiated by the Kennedy Administration—was coming back into vogue again.

**JFK vs. Nixon:** President Kennedy slapped at Nixon for "taking political advantage of our difficulties" so sharply that observers concluded that the former Vice President had struck at Kennedy's most vulnerable point. What Nixon had said (on Columbia Broadcasting System television) was that "moving a few ground troops" into Berlin to scare Khrushchev was "nonsense," and that the latter might well interpret it as weakness rather than strength."

In this remark, Nixon revealed himself as close to the "unmuzzled" US military point of view—which he has been for many years. On September 1, HUMAN EVENTS reported the military's fears that Kennedy's stance on Berlin had actually encouraged Khrushchev to aggression.

Nixon also deserves credit marks on his consistent stand on the issue of atomic testing. During the campaign, he demanded a "cut-off" date soon after the first of the year (1961) on test-ban talks and early test resumption if Russia stalled. Kennedy took a procrastinating line in the campaign which he followed up until now.

- Nixon's stand on foreign aid, however, indicates that the Republican candidate of last fall still suffers from the "me-tooism" which apparently harmed his appeal to the people and presumably resulted in his defeat. This represents a double failure for Nixon, as follows: (1) he was unable to understand, as did GOP legislative leaders Halleck and Dirksen, that a grass-roots revolt against foreign aid was under way with explosive results in Congress; and (2) he failed to understand that the opinion of the grass-roots is that foreign aid, as operated by Ike and JFK, is discredited, is of positive danger to the country; and that the country is behind the military in placing first emphasis on power through weaponry and tough diplomacy instead of the "Santa Claus," be-nice-to-everybody (including neutralists) course of Eisenhower and Kennedy.

This Nixon failure may lead to the further rise of Senator Barry Goldwater, who differs on this issue from Nixon and Rockefeller and who understands the basic issue of the international power situation.

**Warning Not Heeded:** The National Broadcasting Company's Berlin bureau chief, Piers Anderton, reported last week that the

that Western intelligence knew three years ago of a Communist design to seal off East Berlin and virtually annex it to East Germany in violation of all existing agreements between East and West.

Anderton said the news came to Western powers through a minor East German bureaucrat who fled to the West bearing a document showing in detail an East German plan to cut off the flow of refugees to West Berlin.

*The East German plan, said Anderton, was the following: First, a barbed-wire fence "would be thrown up along the 25-mile border between East and West Berlin. This would stop all East Germans from going to West Berlin. If the fence went unchallenged, the Communists would build a cement wall along the boundaries through the center of the city." (This plan was not utilized in 1958, presumably because Khrushchev was aware of Eisenhower's determination to wage all-out nuclear war, if necessary, to stop it.)*

This theoretical strategy the Reds planned to use in 1958 has become a reality today, said Anderton. What diplomatic observers on Capitol Hill would like to have answered is why Kennedy failed to have any plans to stop the erection of the East Berlin barricade since our government had been forewarned of the Communist plans.

**Flirting with Fidel:** It becomes apparent to Capitol Hill that the Kennedy Administration, far from pressing a program to rid Latin America of the Castro dictatorship, is following a program of reconciliation toward the Cuban despot.

Some of the press last week reported Administration attempts to learn to live with Castro in order to quiet things down. It also told of the growing frustration this policy is bringing to anti-Castro Cubans. Anti-Communists, of course, found the meeting in Montevideo between Che Guevara and Kennedy Latin American adviser Richard Goodwin (HUMAN EVENTS, September 8) very disconcerting.

HUMAN EVENTS now learns that Goodwin has been meeting in the White House with another Castro man, an agent who is here ostensibly as a newspaperman. An authoritative source tells us that this agent fed Goodwin the current Cuban line—that Fidel is on the ropes and can only hold out for a few months. This argument, it is thought, is being bought by the New Frontier as an excuse for continued inactivity. JFK will "wait and see" regarding Cuba—refrain from harassing the Red regime.

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